

Determination of Actions Required Under Component 2 of the 2008 OCAP Biological Opinion
May 25, 2010

The Service has determined that OMR flows be no more negative than -5,000 cfs on a 14-day average (no more negative than -6,250 cfs on a 5-day average), as allowed under the RPA.

The Service's determination is based the Smelt Working Group (SWG) recommendation made on May 24, 2010. The SWG recommended OMR flows of no more negative than -5,000 cfs. The latest survey data indicate that the greatest densities of delta smelt are in the Sacramento River and downstream of the confluence, and, therefore, outside the influence of the export facilities. The risk of entrainment for adult delta smelt is considered to be low at this time.

The juvenile protective phase of the biological opinion (RPA Component 2; Action 3 in Attachment B) is in effect. This action will continue until June 30 or when the 3-day mean water temperature at Clifton Court Forebay reaches 25°C, whichever occurs earlier.

Cumulative expanded salvage of larvae is currently at 23 for the season.

The Working Group will continue to monitor salvage, survey data, and hydrological conditions and will reconvene on June 1.